# EVIDENCE ON DEVELOPMENTAL AND REPRODUCTIVE TOXICITY OF 2,4-DP

Reproductive and Cancer Hazard Assessment Section Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment California Environmental Protection Agency



#### 2,4-DP

- Chlorophenoxy acid herbicide
  - 2,4 dichlorophenoxy acetic acid (2,4-D)
  - 2,4 dichlorophenoxy butyric acid (2,4-DB)
  - 2,4 dichlorophenoxy propanoic acid (2,4-DP)
  - Structural analogues of the plant hormone auxin

#### Uses

- Broad leaf herbicide: lawns, landscaping, weed control
- Little agricultural use, home/commercial use not quantified
- Registered for use in California as salts and esters

#### Environmental fate

- Minimal soil adsorption, breakdown
- Long (>100 days) half life in ground water



#### 2,4-DP

- Pharmacokinetics
  - High absorption, protein binding, volume of distribution
  - Excreted via kidney largely unchanged
  - Serum half-life 10 hours
- Subchronic, chronic toxicity
  - Hepatoxicity, kidney toxicity, anemia
  - Induces P450 enzymes, peroxisome proliferator
  - Changes in circulating cholesterol and triglycerides



Agent	Species	Doses (mg/kg/day)	Reference
2,4-DP	Mouse	0,100,200,300,400,500	Roll & Matthiaschk, 1983
2,4-DP(+)	Mouse	0, 200, 300, 400, 500	Roll & Matthiaschk, 1983
2,4-DP	Rat	0, 10, 30, 100	Litton Bionetics, 1973
2,4-DP	Rat	0, 8, 20, 50, 125	Hazleton, 1980
2,4-DP	Rabbit	0, 12, 30, 75	Hazleton, 1979
2,4-DP(+)	Rat	0, 20, 80, 160	Hellwig, 1993b
2,4-DP(+)	Rabbit	0, 20, 50, 100	Hellwig, 1993a

Agent	Species	Doses (mg/kg/day)	
2,4-DP	Mouse	0, 100, 200, 300, 400, <u>500</u>	↓ fetal weight
2,4-DP(+)	Mouse	0, 200, 300, 400, 500	<ul><li>↑ resorptions</li><li>↑ postimplant loss</li></ul>
			↑ fused ribs
2,4-DP	Rat	0, 10, 30, 100	↑ cleft palate
2,4-DP	Rat	0, 8, 20, 50, 125	(2373)
2,4-DP	Rabbit	0, 12, 30, 75	
2,4-DP(+)	Rat	0, 20, 80, 160	
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t gain

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- ↓ fetal weight
- ↑ fused ribs



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NOAEL, no effects

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2,4-DP	Rat	0, 8, 20, 50, <u>125</u>	NOAEL
2,4-DP	Rabbit	0, 12, 30, 75	
2,4-DP (+)	Rat	0, 20, 80, 160	<ul><li>↓fetal weight</li><li>↓ossification</li></ul>
2,4-DP(+)	Rabbit	0, 20, 50, 100	↑ extra ribs
			↑ hydroureter ↓ pregnancy weight gain (13%)

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2,4-DP	Rat	0, 8, 20, 50, <u>125</u>	NOAEL
2,4-DP	Rabbit	0, 12, 30, <u>75</u>	(Dutch-belted)  ✓ fetal weight
			3 fetuses malformed
2,4-DP (+)	Rat	0, 20, <u>80</u> , 160	>10% maternal mortality in study
2,4-DP(+)	Rabbit	0, 20, 50, 100	

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2,4-DP	Rabbit	0, 12, 30, 75	
			NOAEL
2,4-DP (+)	Rat	0, <u>20</u> , 80, 160	(Himalayan)
2,4-DP(+)	Rabbit	0, 20, 50, <u>100</u>	↑ extra ribs ↓ ossification ↓ decreased maternal weight gain GD 7-9 only

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2,4-DP(+)	Rabbit	0, 20, <u>50</u> , 100	NOAEL

#### Female reproductive toxicity

- Two rat multigeneration studies
  - No effects on fertility
  - Perinatal effects at high dose (226 mg/kg/day)
    - Prolonged gestation, dystocia
    - Increased stillbirth, lower litter size at birth, lower birth weight
    - Greater incidence of
      - insufficient maternal care
      - umbilical cord not cut
      - placenta not consumed
  - Parental toxicity
    - Characteristic liver, kidney effects; serum cholesterol changes
    - Lower weight gain (~20% less than controls)
- Chronic and subchronic studies
  - No consistent effects on ovarian weight or pathology



#### Male reproductive toxicity

- Two rat multigeneration studies
  - No effects on fertility
  - ↓ absolute testes weights F0 and F1 males
- Dominant lethal
  - No effects
- Chronic and subchronic studies
  - 13 week rat study; ↓ absolute and relative testes weights
  - 24 month study; ↑ incidence prostatitis



# Summary

• Developmental toxicity; effects in mice, rabbits, rats.

• Female reproductive toxicity; peripartum effects in rats.

Male reproductive toxicity;
 effects on testicular weight in rats.

